

Region II Comprehensive Center
Metropolitan Center for Urban Education
Steinhardt School of Education
New York University

IMPROVING TEACHER KNOWLEDGE (MATHEMATICS)

Based upon our work and experiences at the state, city, district and school levels, we are confident we can:

1. Contribute in a positive manner by sharing the key features of our strategies and practices;
2. Disseminate these strategies/activities in a manner that can be replicated; and
3. Share with colleagues our “best practices” model that is rooted in research, and how we implement it at the school and district levels.

At the Region II Comprehensive Center, we have established mathematics as a major initiative. Members of our mathematics team are veteran educators who have extensive experience, background, and expertise in implementing and modeling recognized “best practices”, that are rooted in research, in schools for classroom teachers and supervisors. Their focus is on providing quality professional development and technical assistance to local districts and their schools. The members of the team have been active members of the New York City/New York State mathematics community at the district, city, and state levels for many, many years. Today, many of them continue to participate in local, state, regional, and national conferences.

Our accomplishments and results are clearly evident in that site based supervisors identify classroom teachers who are *changing* their instructional methods and implementing “best practices” learned through classroom demonstration lessons, workshops, and conferences provided by our site based veteran math consultants. In addition to the increased use of “hands-on” manipulatives in the development of concepts, supervisors, teachers, and parents have acquired a heightened awareness related to major initiatives and organizations (NCLB, TIMSS, NAEP, NCTM) and their impact on standards, instruction, and assessment.

Our plans for the next 12 months include our team providing support at the state, city, district and school levels. In addition to identifying and addressing the challenges related to increasing student achievement, we recognize the importance of the technical support we provide in sharing resources and information related to the implementation of the “No Child Left Behind” legislation (see www.ed.gov and Ed Pubs). Districts and schools welcome and appreciate technical assistance and support in developing their *Comprehensive Educational Plan*, so that they are in alignment with NCLB, state, and local laws and policies.